Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 06345 201404Z

53

ACTION STR-04

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P R 201315Z JUL 76 FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6899 INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO RUJTDK -AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 6212

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E.O. 11652;5 ,/A TAGS: ETRD, LA

SUBJ: TRADE POLICY TEAM VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA

REF: STATE 177351

- 1. SUMMARY. EMBASSY WELCOMES PROPOSED CONSULTATIONS BUT BELIEVES THESE SHOULD BE HELD WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF EXISTING CONSULTATIVE SUBGROUP ON TRADE. EMBASSY REQUESTS AUTHORITY TO PROPOSE TO GOB MEETING OF SUB-GROUP DURING AMBASSADOR YEUTTER'S PROJECTED VISIT. END SUMMARY.
- 2. EMBASSY GRATIFIED BY AMBASSADOR YEUTTER'S PROJECTED VISIT. HOWEVER, CASE OF BRAZIL IS DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF OTHER POSTS (NOT UNLIKE THAT OF MEXICO) IN THAT THERE EXISTS AN AGREED WELL-FUNCTIONING BILATERAL MECHANISM, THE SUB-GROUP ON TRADE, WITH TERMS OF REFERENCE COVERING THE SCOPE OF THE PROPOSED AGENDA. AS WASHINGTON AGENCIES ARE AWARE, THE GROUP IS TO MEET EVERY SIX MONTHS, ALTERNATING BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND BRASILIA, TO REVIEW THE PROGRESS OF THE MTN AS WELL AS THE STATUS OF CURRENT BILATERAL ISSUES. THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 BRASIL 06345 201404Z

NEXT SUCH MEETIN SHOULD BE HELD IN BRASILIA, IN SEPTEMBER,

THUS FALLING WITHIN THE TIME FRAME OF AMBASSADOR YEUTTER'S PROJECTED VISIT.

- 3. WE CONSIDER IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE MOMENTUM OF THE BILATERAL TRADE CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM ON TRADE AS NOW INSTITUTIONALIZED BE MAINTAINED.
- 4. CONSULTATIONS STRICTLY AD HOC, AS NOW PROPOSED BY REFTEL, IGNORING THE CONSULTATIVE STRUCTURE FORESEEN FOR THIS PURPOSE, WOULD LEAVE THE GOB PUZZLED. THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAS A CONSIDERABLE INTEREST AT STAKE IN THE ESTABLISHED CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM, AND, WE BELIEVE, WOULD HAVE PROBLEMS WITH BROAD MTN AD HOC CONSULTATIONS OUTSIDE THIS AGREED FRAMEWORK. ACCORDINGLY, WE PROPOSE:
- (A) EMBASSY WILL ADVISE THE GOB OF AMBASSADOR YEUTTER'S PROJECTED VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT BEFORE THE OASGA, PROPOSING THAT AMBASASDOR YEUTTER'S PROSPECTIVE VISIT TO BRASILIA BE THE OCCASION FOR HOLDING THE THIRD SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SUB-GROUP ON TRADE.
- (B) THE FORMAT AND AGENDA FOR THE TALKS, WHICH WOULD TAKE ABOUT 1 1/2 TO 2 DAYS, WOULD BE SIMILAR TO THE LAST TWO MEETINGS: A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE STATUS OF THE MTN IN ITS VARIOUS GROUPS, AND A FULL REVIEW OF OUTSTANDING OR PROSPECTIVE BILATERAL TRADE ISSUES;
- (C) FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE BRASILIA DISCUSSIONS, AMBASSADOR YEUTTER'S PARTY SHOULD BE SUPPLEMENTED AS NECESSARY BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM STATE (CO-CHAIRMAN), COMMERCE, TREASURY AND THE OTHER AGENCIES WHICH NORMALLY PARTICIPATE IN THESE DISCUSSIONS.
- 5. WE NOTE THAT BRAZIL'S INDEPENDENCE DAY, TUESDAY, SEPTENDER 7, FALLS INTO AMBASSADOR YEUTTER'S PROSPECTIVE TIME FRAME. MANY BRAZILIAN OFFICIALS WILL BE LEAVING THE CAPITAL FOR AN EXTENDED WEEKEND BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 2 3; OR GO ON HOLIDAY THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 5. ACCORDINGLY, WE BELIEVE THE CONSULTATIONS IN BRASILIA WILL HAVE TO BE SCHEDULED EITHER EARLY IN THE WEEK OF AUGUST 29 OR LATE IN THE WEEK (THURSDAY AND FRIDAY) OF SEPTEMBER 5, WITH THE FORMER PROBABLY BEING PREFERABLE.

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PAGE 03 BRASIL 06345 201404Z

6. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY REQUESTS AUTHORITY TO EXPLORE MEETING OF SUB-GROUP PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPHS 4 AND 5. CRIMMINS

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